

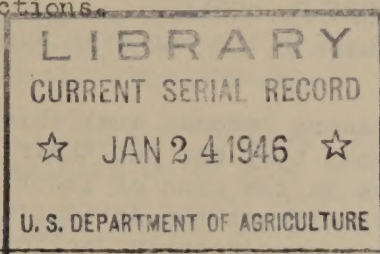
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United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Division  
Washington 25, D. C.

Nov. 7, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.



*A. W. Manchester*  
A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Division

CONNECTICUT MILK  
PRODUCERS PUBLISH  
ACP REPORT

Reproduced below is a full page article appearing in the October issue of the Connecticut Milk Producers Association Bulletin.

The Agricultural Conservation Program is not "farm relief;" it is "a program of social importance to all the people," says Ken Geyer, general manager of the CMPA.

Mr. Geyer was among those quoted in a comprehensive report on the work of the Agricultural Conservation Program in Connecticut, prepared recently by the State Office of the AAA for presentation to a Congressional Committee.

"I think that one of the most important problems facing the program," said Mr. Geyer, "is what business would call a 'public relations problem' " getting the non-farming public to understand that the improvement and maintenance of soil fertility benefits everyone in the country.

"Certainly," he said, "the ability of dairy farmers in Connecticut to meet the tremendous increase in demand for milk from war workers has been in large measure due to the fact that we have had an agricultural conservation program in effect for a number of years, and had thus built up a reservoir of fertility in our soils.

Life-Saver

"The so-called soil conserving crops that we have been urged to plant in past years turned out to be a life-saver under the extremely increased demands for milk.

"With all the talk about the need for reduced tariffs, etc., and, consequently, probably low domestic prices for concentrated agricultural products, it certainly behooves Connecticut farmers to cooperate with the program in every possible way if they are going to maintain an American standard of living.

(Cont'd. on page 2)



(Cont'd. from page 1)

"We must put behind us all political considerations, jealousies, etc., and get behind the program 100 per cent; making sure that any criticisms we may have are always constructive."

#### Evidence of Support

The AAA report was evidence that agricultural leaders and many farmers throughout Connecticut are already 100 per cent behind the program, as Mr. Geyer said.

STATE WAR ADMINISTRATOR HENRY B. MOSLE,

looking to the time which has now arrived, with the war over and labor asking higher wages, had this to say:

"In the years immediately ahead when machinery becomes available, farmers will be compelled to invest all of the funds they can put their hands on in machinery if they wish to stay in business in the kind of labor market we must now expect. Under the circumstances, without the Agricultural Conservation Program, we would have to anticipate a considerable decline in the soilbuilding practices which the ACP has established. It would seem to me that any step in this direction would be a most unfortunate business."

#### Objectives of Program

The ACP has been in existence for 10 years. Its objectives, outlined in the report of the state office, are these:

1. To conserve and restore the pasture and croplands of the state through aid to individual farmers who otherwise would not accomplish it themselves.
2. To increase and maintain a high rate of production of those products needed in the war effort and during the years following the war.
3. To promote health by restoring to the soil the essential minerals which are lacking and are needed in the food consumed by man and his animals.
4. To arrest erosion on those portions of the state which are subject to erosion and to build fertility back into the soil.
5. To stabilize farm production through sound cropping systems and rotations which will enable farmers to hold their own against competition from other areas.
6. To assist farmers to obtain restricted production materials during the war period.

To furnish sufficient roughage on the dairy farms of the state, according to the AAA, would require about 2 3/4 acres of legume hay and pasture, or its equivalent, per cow. To do a complete job, would require about 440,000 tons of lime and 92,000 tons of superphosphate for the initial application on land which has not yet been treated. With recommended rates of application, it would then take annually about 110,000 tons of lime and 48,000 tons of superphosphate to maintain the land in condition to grow good crops of legumes.

To date, about 439,000 tons of lime and 64,000 tons of superphosphate have been used in the program, but the largest amount ever put on in one year is only about half of what should be used each year for maintenance alone. The largest amount of superphosphate ever used, through the program, in one year is only a little over one-fifth of what is needed annually for maintenance, although in the case of superphosphate there is a considerable amount purchased by farmers in addition to what they receive through the program.

(Cont'd. on page 3)



(Cont'd. from page 2)

The conclusion was that "there is much yet to be done in even approaching half of a complete job."

Some other comments:

OLCOTT F. KING, FORMER STATE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE:

"Living in the Connecticut Valley, as I do, I have seen a lot of our good soil go into the river. The program has slowed this up."

WILLIAM L. HARRIS, JR., HARTFORD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT:

"Several farmers have told me that the build-up of their soils was a life-saver during the 1944 drought."

MICHAEL PISARKO, NORWICHTOWN, DAIRY FARMER:

"The job remaining to be done is to attain our goal of 2 3/4 acres, then maintain it. If this goal could be reached and maintained, a steady flow of food for the consumer would be available (which he wants) and a steady income for the farmer instead of the high and low periods as now. Then a straight line of production could be drawn and Connecticut would truly be 'a land of steady habits'."

HOWARD C. PEASE, CHAIRMAN TOLLAND COUNTY ACP COMMITTEE:

"I have seen tobacco stubble cut level with the ground in August. When no cover crop was seeded, by the following spring the stubble would protrude three inches above the ground due to erosion."

RAYMOND K. CLAPP, ACTING DIRECTOR, AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE,  
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT:

"Connecticut county agents are unanimous in crediting the Agricultural Conservation Program with marked increases in the acreage devoted to legumes. These include alfalfa in western and southern Connecticut and clovers, especially ladino, throughout the State. The amount of lime now used is approximately double the annual application prior to the beginning of the Conservation Program. County agents also point to the almost universal use of cover crops by our tobacco and fruit growers and to a very considerable extent by our vegetable and commercial potato growers. The close cooperation that has existed between Extension and the AAA has been an important factor in effectuating these gains."

#### ARMY BUYING POULTRY AGAIN

The Army is back in the poultry market again, and expects to buy between 8 and 10 million pounds of chicken by January 1, 1946.

Most buying will be in the heavy broiler producing areas of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Georgia, Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. Purchases will be on an offer-and-acceptance basis, and the chicken must be grade A, inspected at the point of destination.

This buying is strengthening poultry prices which had weakened considerably following the Army's withdrawal from the market several weeks ago.



**GRAIN STOCKS TOP LAST YEARS** Stocks of major grains stored on and off farms totaled 3,071 million bushels as of October 1, about 431 million bushels more than on the same date last year. Compared with stocks on October 1, 1944, wheat and barley stocks this year were each 4 percent smaller, corn and oats stocks were each 40 percent larger, and rye stocks were 38 percent smaller.

**DECEMBER SUPPORT PRICES ARE MAXIMUM FOR 1945 LATE POTATOES** The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced that support prices on 1945 late-crop Irish potatoes will not be increased for the remainder of the marketing season ending June 1946, over the support prices set for the month of December. (These prices, announced on May 18, vary from \$2.00 to \$2.45 per hundred pounds for U. S. No. 1 grade, depending on the area in which they were grown.)

In view of the large crop it will not be necessary to encourage growers to hold back potatoes for the early Spring market as was done in 1944. Under present supply and demand conditions, it is desirable to have potatoes offered liberally throughout the marketing season. To this end the Department has undertaken a number of programs to facilitate shipments and use of potatoes and to assist growers in marketing this year's near-record crop.

The Department pointed out that farmers should utilize freight cars when they are available. Because of the car shortage, cars frequently cannot be obtained on short notice. Potato consumption is at a high level, and regular, heavy car loadings will make the most efficient use of labor and limited transportation facilities and also will encourage greater consumption and better distribution of the large supply of potatoes.

**WHEAT PURCHASES MEET EXPORT COMMITMENTS** The Commodity Credit Corporation has purchased approximately 13 million bushels of wheat for boat loading on lakes and out of Pacific Northwest ports. Shipments are headed for Europe and the Far East.

Purchases were made in the Duluth-Chicago-Pacific Northwest area because shortages of box cars delayed the movement of CCC-owned interior stocks from distant country points to sea and lake ports. Another purpose was to fill out boat cargoes before the close of the lake navigation on the Great Lakes.

While these liberal cash purchases tended to strengthen the market price of wheat and restore buying confidence, they were made primarily to fulfill CCC's 30-million-bushel monthly export commitments. The demand for cash wheat in Europe will remain high during 1946-47 unless European production increases sharply.

About 13 million bushels of 1945 wheat have been placed under CCC loans, the smallest amount since legislation authorized the program 7 years ago. The small amount of storage loans is due primarily to disappearance of 387 million bushels of cash wheat during July, August, and September. This is 82 million bushels more than for the same period last year. Cash wheat has been selling at ceiling prices.



SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM American farmers have a stake in a \$100-million business with a growing patronage already numbering upward of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  million customers -- the school lunch program.

More than 40,000 schools, half of them rural, maintain lunch facilities with Federal assistance. Thus roughly a fourth of America's 25 million school children eat nutritious lunches which they might not otherwise get. A small number of private and parochial schools and child care centers are included in the number. All are operated on a non-profit basis.

#### The Government's Part

Approximately half the food cost is paid by the Government as its share in the operation of these lunchrooms. This Federal cost, in the past year, totaled more than \$46 million. Federal assistance varies with the type of meal served, beginning with 9 cents for a Type "A" meal and lesser amounts for each Type "B" or "C" meal served.

Type "A" lunches, different from day to day, are designed to provide from a third to a half of a child's daily nutritional requirements. A typical menu might include meat loaf, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, cornbread, butter or fortified margarine, milk, and a cookie. The Type "B" meal, still well-balanced but offering slightly less of the day's nutritional requirements, might consist of a meat-and-vegetable stew, a bread and butter sandwich, milk, and a cookie. Most of the lunches served are Type "B". The Type "C" lunch consists only of a glass of milk.

#### Advantages of the Plan

Youngsters may buy additional food if they wish. Or they may bring their own lunch to school. However, the school lunch program has done much to replace the cold and unappetizing lunches brought to school in former days, and to make a warm midday meal possible for many children.

The program has gone far toward overcoming food dislikes, and in teaching children mealtime etiquette. Among other benefits cited by school officials are better health, improved discipline, increased attentiveness to studies, and consequently better school work.

#### Local Groups Sponsor Program

Responsibility for the lunchroom's operation lies with local sponsoring groups, which plan the program to fit the school's facilities. These may consist of a hot-plate in a corner of the classroom, or a modern kitchen and dining room. Meals are usually prepared by qualified cooks. Students are enlisted for minor jobs, usually in payment for their meals.

Sponsors must agree to offer the available lunch to all children, with no discrimination between paying pupils and those unable to pay.

#### How Much Food?

During the 1944-45 school year, about a billion pounds of foodstuffs were consumed through the school lunchrooms of the Nation. This total included: 486.3 million pounds of milk; 10.8 million dozen eggs; 32.5 million pounds of meat; 345.1 million pounds of fruits and vegetables, mostly fresh; 89.9 million pounds of cereal products; 14.9 million pounds of fats and oils, and 16.2 million pounds of sugar and sweeteners.



(Cont'd. from page 5)

Much of the food provided by the Government comes from supplies purchased to support the prices of certain farm commodities. Some other commodities used in the program come from supplies no longer needed for military and Lend-Lease uses. All is good quality food suitable for children.

**DROP IN NET FARM  
INCOME PREDICTED**

The profits of farmers, as measured by their net income, may drop off as much as 15 percent next year from their record peak of this year. Even with the likely decline, farmers' net income would still be more than double the prewar average.

This is the prediction made recently by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in looking ahead to 1946. Cash receipts of farmers are expected to fall 10 percent next year, while production expenses may decrease only 5 percent.

BAE noted that the volume of employment and the wages of city workers are important factors in demands for food next year. The payment of unemployment benefits on a much larger scale than ever before, however, will help maintain the purchasing power of persons who lose their jobs.

Curtailement of military purchases of farm products next year will be offset largely, if not entirely, by bigger civilian requirements and larger purchases for relief and exports. Wheat already is being shipped abroad in large volume, and exports of cotton are likely to increase.

**AMMUNITION FREED**

Unlimited sales of ammunition are now authorized for all civilians. All controls, quotas, and other restrictions having been removed.

**FAVORABLE OUTLOOK FOR  
TOBACCO IN 1946-47**

The tobacco outlook for the 1946-47 marketing year is favorable. Domestic consumption probably will remain high, and several years of large imports will be needed to rebuild stocks in foreign countries, according to the Department of Agriculture.

Lower prices may be in prospect for some types of tobacco but the general price outlook is favorable to growers. A recent action by OPA lifted price controls from the 1945 crops of all 11 types of leaf tobacco used in the manufacture of cigars.

**SPRING PIG GOALS AND  
SUPPORT PRICES**

A 1946 spring pig goal of 52 million head and an average support price for good to choice butcher hogs of \$12 per hundred lbs. (Chicago basis) were announced October 23 in press release 1974-45. The goals by States, not given in the press release are as follows, by 1,000 head:

Northeast States -- Maine, 6; N. H., 2; Vt., 3; Mass., 14; R. I., 1; Conn., 3; N. Y., 25; N. J., 10; Pa., 65.



# POTATO LOAN REPORT

The October 27 potato loan report for Maine shows preliminary service fees to date totaling \$48,471.83. Lending agencies have disbursed \$1,882,478.15 on 372 loans to farmers and dealers.

Other State's preliminary service fees are reported as follows: New Hampshire, \$141.00; Pennsylvania, \$93.00; Rhode Island, \$235.20; New York, \$10.00. Disbursements for these states show only one for \$2631.10 in New York, none in the other states.

# NO TRIAL POTATO INSURANCE IN 1946

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board, on October 24, decided that additional trial insurance programs would not be undertaken in 1946.

Although Congress authorized the addition of a limited number of other crops for trial programs annually, and although studies are being made with respect to potatoes, citrus fruit, and peanuts, the Board felt that the development of a sound program could best be attained by placing emphasis on programs now in effect.

The Manager was directed to continue studies on citrus fruit, potatoes and peanuts for the purpose of offering insurance on one or more of these crops in 1947 if experience and conditions justify.

The Board emphasized that all possible steps must be taken to avoid a repetition of the substantial losses experienced under past programs.

# BEEF PRODUCTION PAYMENT REPORT

Beef production payments for the months of July and August are reported as follows:

	<u>No. of head</u>	<u>No. of cwt.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>For July:</u>			
New York	23	225	\$ 112.50
Pennsylvania	2772	30,530	15,264.87
<u>For August:</u>			
New York	52	479	239.50
Pennsylvania	3044	32,347	16,158.60
Massachusetts	7	83	41.50
New Jersey	38	349	174.50

# THE GOVERNMENT WRITES A CHECK

An 83 page "thesaurus" has just been issued to State Offices on how a competent and well equipped staff, shall handle Uncle Sam's "check book." (Thesaurus, says the dictionary, is a storehouse of words or knowledge). Divided into 16 "Parts" and 49 "Sections," and bearing the innocent title of "NED-109", it sets forth step by step how to pay the farmer for participation in the Agricultural Conservation Program.

To the uninitiated, writing a check is considered a simple process in itself and most of the work and worry is concerned with keeping money in the bank so checks can be written.

(Cont'd. on page 8)



(Cont'd. from page 7)

So simple in fact that some trusting breadwinners who are inclined to delegate responsibility turn the job over to "The Missus" with good results. But not so with Uncle Sam. Writing the check is what counts; it calls for great skill and fortitude. The money in the bank is only vaguely mentioned in NED-109. When money is mentioned a symbol is used. For example, to quote from page 11, "1232215(35).031 C & UALRDA 1943 (AC + AA) (CP) (CM)."

Presumably, such a symbol is intended to dispel all fear on the part of all "check-writers" of the possibility of no money being available. When a "check-writer" has written that symbol enough times, mere money ceases to be a problem.

The farmer's "bill" is called an application. Part I devotes half a page to how a "check-writer" should "prepare to receive an application" and of course how to receive it and record the fact that he has received it. Glancing quickly through the more simple parts of the index, we find that applications are checked, computed and scheduled. A "check-writer" likes to hunt for errors. "Part V" tells in four "Sections" what to do when he finds one and the application must be suspended. "Suspension," says the dictionary, means holding back or delaying, and many have learned that the term "suspension," as applied to applications, is well chosen.

But applications for payment are not all on the payment side. A few, for one reason or another, it seems, result in a "Notification of Debt" instead of a check. It takes three "Sections" to record such a debt and eight "Sections" to pay it off. "Check-writers" themselves don't make many mistakes, but when a little error does creep in they will know what to do about it. Two "Parts" and eleven "Sections" are very explicit on this subject.

Then, of course, during the extended interval between the time a farmer "files" his application and the time his check is mailed, NED-109 says he may have disappeared, or become incompetent, or died, so that his check can't be cashed after all. "Part XIV" tells what to do (about the check) in the event of any of these misfortunes. Thus, NED-109 solves all the "check-writers" problems -- even when the money is gone. "Part XV" tells him, in this event, to turn the case over to the Director of Finance -- (a favorite out for the "Missus", too).

This little 83 page "booklet" represents a monumental achievement in gathering up, pulling together, and re-writing all in one piece the details of how to be absolutely certain that checks get written for exactly the right amount, and how Uncle Sam protects the interest of those who foot the bill. It should make the "check-writers" job easier by providing a readily accessible reference to current procedure and symbols. JMT proposals which had been submitted by "check-writers" were used. Actually, the 83 pages represent less in the way of instructions than was the case previously. We hope that all the "words and knowledge" on a lot of other jobs and problems can also be put in a "storehouse" for easy reference.

(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State AAA Committeemen, State Office of PMA, Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New Hampshire, County Committeemen in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New Hampshire).



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Div., Field Service Br.  
Production & Marketing Adm., USDA  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.  
November 8, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.

### THE GREAT FARM QUESTION

I've been traveling around in several States in the Northeast in connection with my work a good deal of the time in the last two months. It has given me a chance to talk with a lot of farm people, both privately and in meetings.

Again, I am struck with the frequency with which one subject comes up. If my experience indicates anything, that subject is lurking in the background of the minds of a high percentage of our farm people.

I presume, although I'm not in as good a position to know, that somewhat similar questions cast their shadows over the thinking of a large proportion of the people who aren't farmers.

But for farmers the question is something like, "Are we going to have a bad slump in farm prices the next few years?" That means, "Are we going to have a bad slump in incomes?" Or, sometimes, "What are 'they' going to do to keep us out of the wringer?"

Business men and economists use all sorts of graphs -- jagged, angular lines running up and down across long sheets of paper, making imposing hills and valleys, mountains and chasms and often decorated with all sorts of black areas, shaded areas, dotted lines and mysterious markings.

To most of us they aren't fully clear but they look dangerous. To the initiated they tell a story of gain and loss, progress and decline, hope and despair.

For farm people there has been one graph that forever came back. Especially, wherever they gathered to try to peer a little into the future, there was that graph, hanging on the wall, draped over a chart stand or handed out, fresh from the mimeograph.

It is the chart of the ups and downs of farm prices. And most conspicuous on it is the great drop and the prolonged lows that followed World War I.

It has been a most useful chart. I'll not deny that. It has borne home a truth that none of us dare shut our eyes to. And it has served as a warning of what we have to deal with in the days that are right ahead.

As I talk with farm people, I find, however, a variety of reactions.

There are some to whom this post-war precipice has become an inevitable thing, something decreed by the laws of nature or God -- something that we may learn to fortify ourselves against a little so that it won't hurt us quite so much, but still bound to come. Something that it is almost profane to suggest that feeble man may prevent and do away with.

This is fatalism.

But most of the farmers with whom I talk are not thus passively resigned. They take the attitude that, "Sure, this is valuable information. It warns us of the danger. It shows us what we have to deal with."



To do a strictly honest job of reporting I will have to say that most farmers don't mention this graph. Maybe they don't even remember it. But they do know the danger that lies ahead and they do divide into two groups -- those who think bad times are coming anyway and those who turn right away to questions of what to do to prevent them.

The hope of the future lies in the doers.

In a very broad analysis -- very general but good as a starting point -- what can be done about it comes down to three possible lines of action -- each needed at least under certain conditions to supplement the others.

If farm prices go down it will be because there are more farm products than there are buyers willing to pay the price. Behind mysterious words like inflation and deflation lies that simple truth -- prices go up when there are more eager buyers with the money than there are goods and they go down when the goods exceed the buyers.

Anything that is going to be done to prevent post-war farm disaster will have to be based on that fact. That makes plain two out of the three possible lines of action.

The first that we are almost all for, at least in lip service, is to increase the number of buyers and their ability to buy. This is the best solution. It means better fed people, healthier people, happier people, both here and abroad, for our farm production is sufficient to require some export outlets.

The second way is, wherever we fail to provide an adequate market through good wages, full employment, wise international policies, possible stamp plans and so on, then to adjust production to the outlets that we have.

And since farm production and farm markets are both subject to fluctuations arising from the ups and downs of yields and economic conditions, a third line of action is required. That is direct government action through loans, market operations, price adjustment payments, and so on, to stabilize farm incomes at desirable levels.

There is now a vast amount of accumulated experience in all three of these lines. It is possible to know what works well and what doesn't. On the basis of the trial and error of the past ten years it is possible to put together a program to prevent farm disasters like those of the past. It won't be a perfectly successful program. We human beings don't do things that way.

But it can be reasonably successful and it can grow better as the years go by.

It is about that program and particularly about the demand that the country come to grips with the problem earnestly and honestly that I find farmers talking wherever I go.



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United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Division  
Washington 25, D. C.

Nov. 14, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

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*A. W. Manchester*  
A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Division

EQUALITY FOR AGRICULTURE  
OUTLINED BY ANDERSON

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, in a recent speech at Memphis, Tenn., pointed out that the formula devised in the early thirties to give farmers "parity" is now outgrown.

The Secretary outlined three steps for constructing an up-to-date workable parity formula:

1. Define a "fair share of the national income" taking into account changes in agriculture and industry;
2. Devise a parity formula to yield that fair share under full employment, while encouraging the most efficient use of our agricultural resources. Such goals should encourage adjustments toward the kind of crops, livestock, and fiber America must have to live on a high level;
3. Work out methods by which parity goals can be reached.

Such methods, the Secretary said, could include: (1) Development of a flexible system of parity prices -- which can be attained in normal times with full employment; (2) Government payments which may be necessary to guarantee farmers a fair share of the national income; (3) programs to increase consumption of agricultural products; (4) temporary Government incentive prices to increase production of commodities which otherwise might fall short of consumer demand; (5) maintenance of the Ever-Normal Granary -- with commodity loans to carry over extra supplies from year to year without breaking prices, and (6) acreage adjustments if necessary to shift acreage up or down.

An expanded, free-moving trade with other nations and increased opportunities for employment were mentioned by the Secretary as necessary in planning for genuine parity for agriculture.

**1945 CROP PRODUCTION JUST BELOW RECORD** Total crop production across the Nation is winding up the year only a little below the all-time record outputs of 1942 and 1944. Prospects declined slightly for most of the major crops during October. Biggest decrease was in cotton. The first two-billion-pound tobacco crop ever grown in this country has been harvested, along with record crops of wheat, oats, etc. Milk and eggs continued to come from farms in big volume during October. Milk production set a new record for that month, 2 percent higher than in October 1944. However, milk output declined from September more than seasonally. Egg production was only 5 percent below the record October level of last year.



DAIRY AND OTHER FOOD  
SUBSIDIES TO END

Most wartime food subsidies will end by June 30, 1946, the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion has announced.

These particular subsidies were paid in the wartime program to control price inflation of cost-of-living food items. Government programs to support prices of farm commodities at 90 percent of parity will continue for at least 2 years after the war.

The announcement said that increases in price ceilings might be needed for some commodities to help compensate for removal of the subsidies. Any increase in retail prices resulting from removal of the subsidies are expected to be offset by decreases in retail prices of other commodities.

The wartime subsidies to be terminated not later than next June 30 are: Dairy production payments, regional fluid milk, feeder cattle, beef, sheep and lambs, and flour.

Subsidies on canned and frozen vegetables, dry edible beans, prunes, and raisins will be removed by the end of the 1945 crop season.

Schedule of other subsidy removals is as follows: Canned grapefruit juice -- expires automatically with the selling of the 1944-45 crop and will not be renewed on the 1945-46 crop. Vegetable shortening -- not later than Dec. 31, 1945. Cheese -- not later than February 28, 1946. Pork -- rollback subsidy of \$1.30 per live hundredweight not later than March 31, 1946; the remaining pork subsidy, now 40 cents per live hundredweight, not later than June 30, 1946.

Those subsidies were authorized by Congress to stimulate production during war years while keeping the cost of living stable. Their removal is in keeping with the Government's general policy of eliminating wartime controls as soon as possible.

"The Secretary of Agriculture has directed attention to the desirability of letting the producer know as early as possible when particular subsidies are to be terminated, in order that he may make his production plans, accordingly," the Stabilization Administration said.

No final decision has been made as the time for removal of subsidies now being paid for production of sugar, soybeans, flaxseed, and to non-processing meat slaughterers.

PRODUCERS NOW RECEIVE  
SUBSIDY ON HEAVY CREAM

Producers who sell whipping and coffee cream containing more than 19% butterfat may now receive Dairy Production Payments on the butterfat content of the produce sold. The rate of payment for butterfat produced and sold during this quarter is 17 cents per pound. It will be necessary for producers to furnish evidence satisfactory to the county AAA committee of the butterfat content of the cream.

\* \* \*

---Controls governing procurement of anthracite coal for operation of poultry brooders and hatcheries have been discontinued. The Solid Fuels Administration revoked Revised Regulation 5 effective November 1, 1945.



POTATOES ARE  
SHIPPED TO EUROPE

Some of the big U. S. potato crop will feed starving Europe. One million bushels of late potatoes are being shipped from Maine to Belgium for food.

Only recently ways have been found to refrigerate late potatoes for Atlantic crossings. Then too, distribution delays in Europe have been solved, so there is little chance of spoilage when the potatoes reach their destination.

Canada has completed negotiations of 3 to 5 million bushels of the late crop from the U.S. These potatoes will be shipped from late-producing States. France also will receive an undetermined amount of the surplus potatoes if negotiations are completed.

Low grades of intermediate potatoes are being purchased by the Government and diverted to alcohol and glucose production. These purchases were made under the Government price support program for early and intermediate potatoes.

To assure themselves of the Government's price support, growers are encouraged to place their late crop under Commodity Credit Corporation storage loan. As of November 3, producers had applied for loans on more than 32 million bushels.

USDA STATE AND COUNTY  
COUNCILS ESTABLISHED

From the former war boards of the Department of Agriculture have grown new "councils" for States and counties. As directed by the Secretary of Agriculture, the chairman of each State and county war board will, before November 30, call a meeting of members of the council to elect officers to serve in 1946. Such elections will be held each year during the month of December.

Functions of the councils are: (1) To help agencies of the Department coordinate their activities; (2) to provide a medium for the exchange of information and the discussion of mutual problems; and (3) to carry out assignments which may be made by the Secretary.

Membership in the councils is broader than in the war boards, and includes interested Federal and State agricultural agencies.

The councils shall, as of December 1, 1945, succeed the USDA War Boards, except that the councils will continue to exercise in the name of the War Boards the functions relative to Selective Service assigned by War Food Administration Memo No. 31, revised.

"The USDA War Boards which are succeeded by the councils," Secretary Anderson said, "have reason to be proud of their invaluable assistance to agriculture and to the nation throughout the war period. Their work is deeply appreciated by the Department. The tasks of peace are no less difficult than those of war and I know that the councils will render equally valuable service to agriculture in the future. As we carry on together, I shall feel free to communicate with the councils directly from time to time as the occasion arises."



POTATO LOANS NEARLY  
\$6,000,000 IN NORTHEAST

As of November 3, 528 loans had been completed in Maine, New York, and Pennsylvania -- 506, 21, and 1, respectively. "Originally under loan" in Maine were 4,077,641 hundredweight of U.S. No. 1's, and 161,080.9 hundredweight of U.S. No. 2's and U.S. No. 1, size B's for a total of \$2,862,242.50. A few have been repaid.

In New York, \$41,569.11 has been loaned on about 30,000 hundredweight; in Pennsylvania, \$483.95 on 348 hundredweight. Special potato loans completed in Maine total \$17,320.17 on 13 applications covering nearly 17,000 hundredweight.

Preliminary service fees total \$55,048.23 in Maine; \$176.40 in New Hampshire; \$235.20 in Rhode Island; \$860.05 in New York; and \$196.00 in Pennsylvania.

CRANBERRY SUPPLIES  
UP -- PRICES DOWN

This year Thanksgiving shoppers will find cranberry supplies up and prices down compared with last year. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimated that the crop this year will be over 634 thousand barrels with 100 pounds of berries to the barrel -- almost double last year's crop and considerably above average in size. Supplies on markets will be larger not only because the crop is larger but because the Army is taking less this year. Massachusetts, the State which supplies the bulk of the crop, expects large production. Wisconsin and New Jersey crops are smaller this year and the crop in the Northwest is about average.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE  
FAO CONFERENCE

The FAO Conference in Quebec ended on an optimistic note November 1. Sir John Boyd Orr of Scotland, who is to be FAO's first Director General for a term ending December 31, 1947, said at his first press conference that FAO is the world's answer to the atomic bomb. Washington was chosen as the temporary seat of FAO, the permanent seat to be that chosen for the United Nations Organization.

Forty-two countries are now members of FAO, the latest to join being Syria, Lebanon, Yugoslavia, Uruguay, and Paraguay. The Russian delegates at the conference attended only as observers. The head of that delegation reported that USSR feels that the organizational forms of FAO still require study and that it must consult with some of its Republics about the matter.

Howard R. Tolley, Chief of BAE, who was elected as one of a 15-member Executive Committee for a three-year term, was made vice-chairman of the group. Andre Mayer of France was made chairman. This committee is to be a continuing body with one-third of its members changed each year.

FOURTH QUARTER  
DAIRY ALLOCATIONS

More butter, American cheese, evaporated milk, and dried milk is allocated to U.S. civilians during the current quarter year than during the previous three-month period and more also than during the same October - December period of 1944, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports.

Greatly increased quantities of dairy products have been allocated to UNRRA, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and French North Africa. These claimants are receiving more than 450 million pounds of dairy products in this quarter, which is approximately four times greater than the U.S. has made available in any previous quarter to meet relief needs. Allocations to these claimants substantially meet their requests for dairy products. UNRRA, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, French North Africa, and the United Kingdom are making either cash or credit arrangements to pay for these supplies.



DEMAND FOR LEGUME  
SEED INCREASES

Foreign needs for legume and grass seeds have increased since the crop has begun to move to market. Most war-torn countries look to the U.S. to supply them with seed to provide feed for rebuilding livestock production.

Meanwhile, this year's harvest of grass and legume seeds is 2 or 3 weeks later than usual because of frequent rain. Demand for most seeds is bringing higher prices to growers.

Under the Government's special 1945 seed program, farmers became eligible for acreage payments after harvesting alfalfa, alsike, and red clover seed.

Alsike-clover seed -- Although the harvest was late, 54 percent of the commercial crop has been sold to dealers. Because of the demand for this seed, prices to growers advanced 17 cents per 100 pounds between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15.

Red-clover seed -- Movement to dealers is faster than usual. About 40 percent of the commercial crop has been sold by growers. The Netherlands, Great Britain, and Belgium have requested shipments of red clover seed from the U.S. This particular clover grows well on once-flooded Dutch lands.

Alfalfa seed -- By mid-October, 54 percent of the commercial crop was sold to dealers, and prices were the highest ever received by growers on that date. Alfalfa seed exports in August were 42,000 pounds. Russia and Denmark have requested shipments of alfalfa seed from the U.S.

OPA RAISES HOG  
CEILINGS AT 13 MARKETS

Ceiling prices on live hogs have been increased 5 cents per 100 pounds at 13 terminal markets under a recent action by OPA.

Purpose of the higher ceilings is to halt the diversion of hogs from customary marketing channels, resulting from widespread and growing practices of country buying. OPA explains that the bypassing of terminal markets has created serious hardships for stockyard companies which provide marketing facilities, as well as for selling agencies and slaughterers dependent upon these markets for their hog supplies.

The terminal markets in the Northeast where ceilings have been increased, and their new ceilings per 100 pounds for barrows and gilts, are: Boston, Mass., \$15.35 and Pittsburgh, Pa., \$15.20.

U.S. FOOD ALLOCATIONS  
FOR EUROPE INCREASE

Nearly 4 million tons of U.S. food will be made available to liberated European countries and French North Africa in the last quarter of this year,

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson has announced.

The U.S. has about 37 million tons of food for allocation during this period. Of this amount, almost 10 percent will be made available to liberated countries. U.S. civilians will receive about 29 million tons, or 78 percent.

Food exports for the entire 1945 calendar year are estimated at 15.9 million tons. Food allocations for liberated areas and other exports will total 6 million tons for the final quarter -- an increase of approximately 50 percent, as compared with the average for the first three quarters.



ABUNDANT FOODS  
IN DECEMBER

Turkey (heavy toms) and chicken head the list of plentiful foods for December. There will also be an abundance of carrots, cabbage, and white potatoes, with topped beets in heavy supply in most large markets of the Midwest and Northeast during November and December. Beet production in New Jersey and Pennsylvania is about 10 percent higher than last year. More beets will be marketed fresh as processing outlets in the Midwest are down compared with 1944. Fairly liberal supplies of Southern green snap beans will be available in the principal markets during December.

FEED SITUATION

Here is a preview of the feed outlook for 1945-46 as compared with 1944-45: Prices of feed grains and other concentrates, except oats, probably will average about the same. Supplies of all feed concentrates per animal unit are indicated as slightly smaller than last season's large supplies; feeding rates are likely to continue high.

The feed grains used for food and industrial purposes may be slightly less; increased exports of some feed grains and byproduct feeds are indicated. Supplies of high-protein byproduct feeds, on the basis of oilmeal equivalent, probably will be slightly smaller. The supply of hay for the 1945-46 season is one of the largest on record.

REPORT ON POTATO PURCHASES  
AND DISPOSITION BY GOVERNMENT

The latest report of potato purchases by the U.S. Department of Agriculture showed 206,225 cwt. purchased in field storage as of October 15 in New Jersey; 109,971 cwt. purchased in barn storage -- 79,003 cwt. in New Jersey and 30,968 cwt. in Massachusetts. Purchases sacked and loaded f.c.b. cars through October 20 were reported as follows:

State	Cars	State	Cars	State	Cars
New Jersey	3,475	Idaho	71	Virginia	32
New York	2,169	Pennsylvania	92	Rhode Island	25
Texas	1,079	Maryland	67	Arizona	25
Colorado	693	Connecticut	54	New Mexico	7
Nebraska	623	Washington	39		
Massachusetts	315	Kansas	39	Total	8,805

The disposition of potatoes purchased through October 30 is shown below:

State	Relief	Starch	Storage	Stockfeed	Canning	Alcohol	Total
Arizona				25			25
New Jersey	129	859	292	1826	206	240	3552
Texas	56		562	52	408		1078
New York (L.I.)	230	405	732	723	79		2169
Nebraska	258		365	3			626
Colorado	17		586	88	2		693
Maryland	47	3		17			67
Massachusetts	74	51		190			315
Virginia	32						32
Kansas	23		16				39
Pennsylvania	50	3	8	31			92
Washington	12			27			39
Rhode Island	21			4			25
New Mexico	1		4		2		7
Idaho	15	23				33	71
Connecticut	16	2		36			54
Total	981	1346	2565	3022	697	273	8884 cars
Percent	11.0	15.2	29.0	34.0	8.0	3.0	100.0



**CEILINGS SET ON SOYBEAN CROP** Ceiling prices to be paid by processors for the 1946 crop of soybeans to be processed for oil will be the same as for the 1944 crop, OPA has announced. This is in accordance with the notice given growers in advance of spring planting.

Ceilings are: \$2.10 a bushel for U.S. Grade No. 2, 14 percent moisture, yellow and green; \$1.90 a bushel for U.S. Grade No. 2, classes III (brown), IV (black), and V (mixed).

In other years, OPA has waited until harvest was over before applying ceilings. Controls are applied early this year because unfavorable harvesting and transportation conditions have pushed up prices.

Soybeans sold as seed for the 1946 crop or for human consumption are not covered by these ceilings.

**THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION** The Department of Agriculture's Poultry and Egg Situation for October, says in part: Overall demand for poultry products in 1946 will decline from the high levels reached in 1945. This will be due to increased supplies of meat for civilians, smaller non-civilian takings of poultry products, and reductions in consumer income. Prices received by farmers for eggs will decline materially and may be near support levels during most of the year; the extent of the decline will depend in large part on export demand. Prices received for chickens and turkeys, on the other hand, probably will be only moderately below the all-time peaks reached in 1945, as the supply of poultry meat will be somewhat less plentiful than eggs, in relation to demand.

There will be at least as many hens and pullets on farms Jan. 1, 1946, as a year earlier, on the basis of past relationships between the number of potential buyers on hand in the early fall and the number on Jan. 1 following. Farm egg production during the first half of 1946 is likely to be approximately the same as in the corresponding period of 1945, but egg production in the second half of the year probably will be smaller than a year earlier, reflecting heavier culling of layers and a reduction in the number of chickens raised.

With lower egg prices in prospect next winter and spring, 10 to 15 percent fewer chickens will be raised in 1946 than in 1945. However, a substantial reduction in the number of layers and potential layers from farm flocks could result in total farm chicken meat output not much different from that in 1945. Commercial broiler production probably will decline in 1946, largely as a result of reduced military requirements. On the other hand, turkey prices are likely to continue high, and the number of turkeys raised in 1946 may be nearly the same as the record number raised in 1945.

**SMALL TURKEYS MOST POPULAR**

"Plenty of turkey for Thanksgiving" may not mean that the housewife can go down to the meat market and pick up an 8 or 10 pound turkey any time. Already the supply of small turkeys is running short in some areas. But there may be more of the heavy turkeys -- over 13 pounds -- than will be absorbed by the market. Smaller families, apartment living, and fewer family reunions contribute to the preference for the small turkey.



SIR JOHN BOYD ORR

Sir John Boyd Orr, first Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, is an internationally famous nutritionist, a scientist, a practical farmer, a great humanitarian, and a veteran of World War I.

As a nutritionist and as humanitarian, Sir John, who was knighted in 1935 for his public service, was a pioneer in the movement to bring about a marriage of health and agriculture to the end that eventually all men everywhere should have enough to eat and to keep them healthy.

As a scientist Sir John founded and directed until his election to Parliament this year, the Rowett Institute for Research in Animal Nutrition in Aberdeen, Scotland. As a practical farmer, Sir John was interested in the operation by the Institute of a successful thousand acre stock farm on which the results of research were applied on farm animals under farming conditions. He also owns and actively operates a large mixed farm in the County of Angus in Scotland.

John Orr was born in Ayreshire, Scotland, in September 1880. He studied at Glasgow University for ten years and is a graduate in three faculties -- arts, science and medicine. After graduation in medicine, he did research work in human physiology.

During the years that he was working on animal nutrition at Aberdeen, as a medical man he was also continually interested in human nutrition. In 1925, he carried out a test with school children in the seven largest towns in Scotland, which showed that children who were supposed to be in normal health when given a pint of milk at school each day, showed a remarkable improvement in health and physique and their rate of growth was increased by about 20%. Since then he has never stopped urging that agricultural policy should be based on the nutritional needs of the people.

In 1935, he published a book, "Food, Health, and Income," in which he showed there was a direct connection between the kind of food people ate and their health, and as family income fell diet became worse and health and physique suffered. His figures showed that more than one-third of the population of Great Britain were living on a diet which could not support health and the main cause of resulting malnutrition was poverty. The book caused a stir in political circles. The League of Nations set up an international committee to draw up a report on food requirements for health and Sir John was a member.

Among his many academic distinctions, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of London, elected for his fundamental research in Physiology, and an Honorary Graduate LL.D. of St. Andrews' and Edinburgh Universities. Sir John and Lady Orr have two daughters. An only son was killed in action with the R.A.F.

Sir John thus sums up his creed: There is a world scarcity of food, and increasing production providing sufficient food and health standard for all would lead to a great reduction in disease and increased length of life and would bring prosperity to an expanding agriculture.



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Div., Field Service Br.  
Production & Marketing Adm., USDA  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.  
November 15, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.

#### MILK PAYMENTS TO END

The milk production payment, amounting now to 70 or 80 cents a hundred pounds in Northeastern States, will be discontinued certainly next June 30 and possibly on March 31. This was announced last week as part of a statement that all food subsidies are to be dropped.

This brings dairy farmers face to face with a problem that has been looming more or less uncertainly in the distance ever since the fighting ended.

Dairy farmers tell me -- and the statement seems entirely reasonable -- that with the help of the payment they are getting along reasonably well. But they aren't making profits anything like that 70 or 80 cents a hundred pounds. They foresee no drop in costs. If the payment goes and is not replaced by an offsetting increase in price, they will be facing tough going.

It is to be expected that when the payment is done away with, price ceilings will go, too. Milk and cream will be allowed to go up, if the forces in the market are sufficient to push them up.

Thoughtful dairy farmers look forward to that situation with mixed feelings.

Most farmers would rather get their income from a market price than a government payment.

But they all know that the combination of full employment and high wages in industry and a low price for milk has increased sales of milk and cream over 25 percent over prewar. Farmers in the East realize that the increase is one of the finest things that has ever happened in the dairy field. It's good for consumers. It means better health -- happier living. And it's good for producers. It means a lot more of their milk selling as fluid milk -- at the higher prices that Class I milk brings.

Farmers don't want to go back to the old days when a big part of their milk sold in the cheap lower classes. And they are afraid of what a sharp increase in the price of milk to consumers might do to sales.

Especially, if it should happen to coincide with some drop in employment and wages.

They figure that it would take an increase in the retail price of at least two cents a quart to hold their returns to present levels -- more if the increase in price forced Class I sales down sharply.

The milk payment was started as a war time device -- planned to enable farmers to maintain or increase their production -- badly needed for the war. It's further purpose was to bring about this increase without raising prices to consumers and adding to the danger of serious inflation.

It succeeded admirably in accomplishing these purposes.



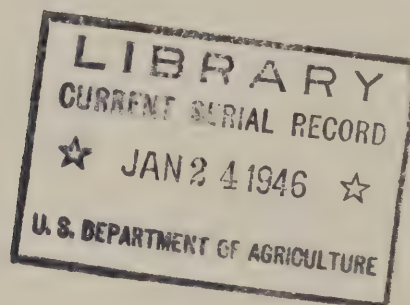
Now its elimination is clearly part of a policy of putting the country back on a peace time basis. Farmers understand this. They welcome the peace, but want it to be a good peace. They aren't anxious to go back to the conditions of distress that were too frequently theirs in the old days of peace. Those conditions have forced the abandonment of thousands of Northeastern farms and millions of acres of crop and pasture lands. Many of those who stayed on have paid a hard price in unrequited toil and privation.

Those things are not a part of that better world that farmers in common with all our people aim for in these postwar years. A return to such conditions would be one step down for the American economy as a whole. Industry would lose an important market. The drop in dairymen's returns would spell less jobs in industry.

So there's a problem ahead for dairy farmers.

That cut in their income will not be. And the country's kids and mothers and all the rest for that matter, need that generous use of milk that has come with the war. It's a humble step forward in human welfare.

To keep both farmers' incomes and high milk consumption isn't simply a problem for farmers. It's a problem for the whole country.



(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State AAA Committeemen, State Office of FMA, Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New Hampshire, County Committeemen in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire and Rhode Island).



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Ad 4 Agv  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Division  
Washington 25, D. C.

November 21, 1945

Cap 6  
AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Division

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STATE GROUPS TO      Suggested 1946 production goals will be sent to States  
REVIEW 1946 GOALS      early in December, according to present plans of the  
Production and Marketing Administration. The plan for  
State review and recommendation, according to J.B. Hutson, PMA Administrator,  
calls for:

1. Transmittal of the Department's suggested goals to the States the week of December 3.
2. Review of suggested goals by the State USDA Council members (formerly USDA War Board), the representative of the State College who is chairman of the Production Adjustment Study, representatives of farm organizations, and other interested individuals.
3. Return of State goals with suggestions and recommendations to the U.S.D.A. for final review and issuance by the Secretary.
4. Complete the review by State groups by January 1.
5. Issuance of final State goals, approved by the Secretary, as soon after January 1 as possible.

"The carrying out of a program in States and counties so that farmers get a clear understanding of the adjustments called for by the goals and the reasons back of the production pattern established is especially significant this year," Mr. Hutson emphasized. "State groups will be asked to develop plans so that the goals and program information will reach farmers in a manner calculated to influence their operations."

The Department does not plan to send "goals teams" to the State meetings as was done in the past two years. Assistance will be available, however, if there are areas where problems occur for certain commodities or a clarification of the program is needed, or where assistance in developing plans on getting information to farmers is desired.

Plans for Goals Conferences are already underway in Pennsylvania, for December 11 and 12, and in Massachusetts, December 18 and 19.



## HUTSON SEES MARKET FOR EXPANDED FARM PRODUCTION

Undersecretary of Agriculture J. B. Hutson believes we can find a market for most farm products even though we continue to produce one-fourth more than

before the war.

He warns, however, that we can do this only if we keep food consumption in this country at its high wartime levels and if we export more farm products than we did before the war. Otherwise, a comprehensive system of production and marketing controls will be needed.

Mr. Hutson, who also is administrator of the Production and Marketing Administration, gave his views in a recent talk at Indianapolis.

In order to maintain high consumption in this country, Mr. Hutson says these conditions and steps are necessary:

1. Generally full employment with liberal unemployment compensation for people without jobs.
2. An expanding school lunch program which enlarges the farm market and promotes better nutrition.
3. Food made available to low-income people at below-market prices.

On the export side, we may have to sell some products in world markets at prices lower than those on the domestic market, he said.

The Undersecretary points out that the larger crop yields of recent years have been due to conservation measures and better varieties of seed, as well as to favorable weather.

## VEGETABLE OUTLOOK GOOD

Civilians can be sure of ample supplies of most vegetables -- both fresh and canned. In 1946, truck crops for fresh market are expected to be one-third larger than 1945, and with production of vegetables for processing remaining above prewar levels.

Fresh "green and leafy" vegetables -- carrots, cabbage, cucumbers, tomatoes, lettuce -- are abundant. Green peas and celery, though below 1944 production, are expected to meet consumer demand.

Production of truck crops for processing has risen steadily since 1933, and will continue to rise faster than production for fresh market. Canning is the major form of processing, but commercial freezing is expected to offer strong competition to fresh vegetables in the next 10 years.

Prices on vegetables are expected to fall slightly lower than wartime prices, but remain above prewar levels.

Government price-support programs on potatoes, sweet potatoes, dry beans and dry peas have been bringing prices to growers of 90 percent of parity. Dry beans may be a little short for civilians in 1946, but supplies of sweet potatoes and dry peas should meet all needs. More-than-ample supplies of potatoes from the 1945 crop have supplied all civilian, military, and export demands.



PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY  
REPORTS SUCCESSFUL ELECTION

Pleasure can be mixed with business in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. This word comes from the State office in a report that all AAA committee-men elections in Pennsylvania have been completed.

A joint meeting for several communities was the idea tried in Somerset County to obtain larger attendance at elections.

At the Berlin Municipal Building, farmers from three of the county's communities, with their wives, attended a general discussion on AAA's conservation program for 1946. This was followed by a "ladies only" meeting, while husbands scattered to three polling places in the building to cast ballots for committeemen.

A similar plan was tried at Somerset for three communities, and at Myersdale for four communities.

Those attending the joint meetings expressed pleasure at the social contacts offered by the larger-group meetings. Attendance also was better than in parts of the county where one-community meetings were held.

484 INSURED FARMS      Of the 2584 tobacco farms in Lancaster County, Penna.,  
REPORT TOBACCO LOSSES      having insurance contracts, 484 have reported losses  
                                 to date, on their 1945 crop. Floods and frost accounted  
for most of the losses which have yet to be analyzed with regard to actual  
loss within terms of the contract as reported by adjusters.

Of 729 corn insurance contracts, it is reported that 46 losses were sustained in Chester County, Pennsylvania. These claims also remain to be determined as to actual extent of loss.

WAR ASSETS CORP.      By an Executive Order of October 19, 1945, the surplus  
IS ESTABLISHED      disposal functions of the Office of Surplus Property,  
                                 Department of Commerce, were transferred to the  
Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

W. Stuart Symington, Surplus Property Administrator, announced from the White House that there will be formed under the Reconstruction Finance Corp. a War Assets Corporation, which, on November 5th, took over the responsibility for selling all consumer goods, capital and producers goods, war plants and aircraft.

War Assets Corporation will be the disposal agency for approximately 90 percent of surplus government property located in the continental United States.

DRY BEANS      Present maximum prices for dry edible beans will be  
CEILINGS UNCHANGED      continued at least until June 30, 1946, OPA and the  
                                 Department of Agriculture have announced.

Short supplies and rumors that ceilings would be removed has caused speculation in dry bean transactions, especially in Idaho and California. New pricing provisions to make such speculative practices impossible are now being considered by OPA. Meanwhile, growers indicate that the 1945 dry bean crop will be 14,191,000 bags, uncleaned. This is about 2 million bags less than the 1944 crop, and 6 3/4 million bags less than the record crop grown in 1943.



USDA REORGANIZATION  
CHART ISSUED

In this and subsequent issues of "Agriculture in Action" we shall try to present information on the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture and explanations of the various programs of interest to the Field Service Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration.

The following is taken from an organization chart approved October 24, 1945, by the Secretary of Agriculture, and is intended to show the status of the Production and Marketing Administration. Offices and Bureaus other than "Program Agencies" are omitted.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PROGRAM AGENCIES  
(Each reports directly to the Secretary)

Rural Electrification Administration	Forest Service
Farm Credit Administration	Farm Security Administration
Extension Service	Soil Conservation Service
Production and Marketing Administration	

Within the Production and Marketing Administration there is established the following branches, each reporting directly to the Administrator.

<u>Commodity Branches</u>		
Cotton	Fruit and Vegetables	Poultry
Dairy	Grain	Special Commodities
Fats and Oils	Livestock	Sugar
Tobacco		

<u>Functional Branches</u>		
Budget & Management	Fiscal	Marketing Facilities
Compliance & Investigations	Food Distribution	Materials & Equipment
Crop Insurance	Labor	Shipping & Storage
Field Service		

As a program agency, the Production and Marketing Administration has been assigned the following functions which are administered by the 20 Branches listed above.

- I. Formulate, coordinate, and administer production and marketing programs including:
- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| a. Price support  | h. Agricultural marketing including:              |
| b. Subsidy        | 1. Processing and marketing quotas                |
| c. Lending        | 2. Export   |
| d. Buying         | 3. Surplus disposal                               |
| e. Selling        | 4. Agricultural conservation and adjustment       |
| f. Storage        | 5. School lunch                                   |
| g. Transportation | 6. Interstate and foreign farm labor supply       |
|                   | 7. Farm wage stabilization                        |
|                   | 8. Farm income improvement                        |
|                   | 9. Improvement of nutritional standards           |
|                   | 10. Agricultural utilization of surplus materials |
|                   | 11. Equipment and facilities                      |
|                   | 12. Other programs                                |

(Continued on page 5 )

- II. Determine food requirements of all claimants and recommend allocations including import requirements;
- III. Make recommendations on maximum price regulations;
- IV. Collect and disseminate market news;
- V. Conduct regulatory activities such as inspection, grading, and standardization.
- VI. Develop and administer food limitation and conservation orders;
- VII. Plan, direct and coordinate programs under provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1935 and the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938;
- VIII. Administer crop insurance programs;
- IX. Administer Commodity Credit Corporation programs in addition to those enumerated above;
- X. Responsible for liquidating functions of the Federal Surplus Commodity Corporation;
- XI. Represent the Department for functions assigned to the Administration.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE      Federal crop insurance is completing a successful  
PROVES SUCCESSFUL            year. During the first 6 months of the new program,  
more than 550,000 farms were covered by insurance --  
more than in any previous full-year program.

Beginning early in 1945, Federal Crop Insurance was offered on wheat, flax, and cotton crops all over the Nation. Corn and tobacco insurance was offered to farmers in a restricted number of counties on a trial basis.

Already participation in wheat insurance for the 1946 crop exceeds that of 1943, and the majority of applications for spring wheat have not yet been filed. For other insurable crops, the coverage includes 113,183 farms producing cotton, 38,072 farms growing flax, 12,363 growing corn, and 12,288 planted in tobacco.

Soon after the first of the year, farmers will begin filing applications for cotton, spring wheat, and flax. Trial insurance programs will again be offered for corn and tobacco. No additional crops will be included under the experimental program in 1946.

ONT SEEKS TO EASE            The Office of Defense Transportation says steps are  
BOX CAR SHORTAGE            being taken to relieve the serious shortage of box  
cars to move grain in the Great Plains area. A survey  
of shippers and railroads is being made in all States east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio River to determine how efficiently cars are being used in that region.

As a further step, the American Association of Railroads has ordered Eastern and Southeastern railroads to return 10,000 cars to Western lines during November.

EARLY FERTILIZER            "Buy your fertilizer early this year," the Department of  
BUYING IS URGED            Agriculture cautions farmers.

Raw materials for fertilizers are expected to be slightly more than during the 1944-45 season. However, to avoid production and delivery congestion as well as the possibility of running short at planting time, farmers are urged to place orders early and store supplies on farms.



# POTATO LOAN REPORTS

Telegraphic potato loan reports received Monday, November 19, were as follows for the regular loan

program:

State	Cwt. Offered for Loan	Cwt. Loans Completed
Maine	13,802,645	4,263,583
New Hampshire	42,040	8,079
Vermont	None	None
Massachusetts	22,817	None
Rhode Island	98,391	None
Connecticut	102,947	None
New York	290,292	40,096
New Jersey	9,484	9,484
Pennsylvania	125,810	54,931
Region Total	14,494,476	4,376,173
U.S. Total	24,300,273	8,770,126

For the period ending November 10, the cumulative summary of potato loans showed the following:

State	No. of Loans	Cwt. of US No. 1's Orig. Loaned	Cwt. of U.S. No. 1, B's & 2's Orig. Loaned	Prelim. Service Fees	Amount Orig. Loaned
Pa.	13	21,316.3	2940.3	\$ 354	\$33,076.71
R.I.	-	-	-	454.57	-
Me.	691	2,935,697.9	355,930.0	60,748.42	4,032,312.14
N.Y.	27	30,840.0	5,072.9	1,005.05	50,495.65
N.H.	4	5,042.0	561.0	176.40	8,262.20

**CORN EXPORTS** Corn exports by Government and commercial agencies during the last quarter of 1945 will be limited to 4,429,000 bushels, the Department of Agriculture has announced. These will be solely for human consumption to relieve critical food shortages. Authorizations during the third quarter totaled 1,610,000 bushels.

Of this amount, 3,264,000 bushels are authorized to be purchased in the trade by foreign buyers for export to Canada, Mexico, Cuba, and the Philippines. Of the 1,165,000 bushels to be bought by the Government, 300,000 will be for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and the balance for exports to France, Belgium, United Kingdom, Netherlands, and British Colonies.

(Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State AAA Committees, State Offices of PLU, Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New Hampshire, County Committees in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.)

Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Division, Field Service Br., PMA  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
November 22, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

### WHAT TO DO ABOUT EGGS

What to do about eggs is now one of the important questions before the Department of Agriculture. It isn't a question of what to do about eggs just now. Eggs are in short supply and selling very well; there are even reports of grocers rationing eggs in a few cities. But this is the season when hens don't lay many eggs, and there was such a demand for eggs for drying and eating last spring when the hens were laying heavily that storage stocks are abnormally low.

It's eggs next spring that people are worrying about. The people in Washington may not be counting their chickens before they are hatched, but they are certainly counting next spring's eggs before they are laid. Their present estimates are that if there are the number of hens laying next spring that one would expect, on the basis of the number of hens and pullets on hand now, and if those hens are laying at the high rates of the last few years, there will be a lot more eggs than the market will take of its own volition at the support prices.

In fact, there is one unofficial guess going around that there could easily be 25 million cases of extra eggs. If you want something to compare that 25 million cases with, you might remember that in the spring of 1943, when there was all sorts of trouble in finding any use for them and any place to store them, the Government bought, in round numbers, 5 million cases. Twenty-five million are five times as many.

This, of course, is only speculation, based on several "ifs." Some of the "ifs" however, are not very "iffy." For instance, there isn't likely to be any very big mistake in estimating the number of hens we shall have or the number of eggs they will lay apiece. You can't estimate very exactly how many eggs one hen will lay or even one flock, but these things tend to average out in several million flocks.

To my mind the biggest question mark is around the problem of how many eggs people are going to want to buy and eat. The guess that there will be 25 million extra cases is based on an estimate that on the average the people of this country will eat 340 eggs apiece in 1946 with eggs selling at or a little above support prices. Instead of 340 eggs, it is estimated that this year -- 1945 -- the average consumer has eaten and will eat 390. That 390 eggs per person is a rate of eating eggs that we never approached before in this country. The five years before, average consumption was 326.

If we should keep on eating next year at the same rate we have this year, there wouldn't be any 25 million cases of excess eggs. In fact, there would not be any extra during the year as a whole. Of course, there would be some extra to put into storage in the spring, but that's just normal.



Frankly, the estimate of how many surplus eggs there will be depends on how many eggs people are going to eat. The 340 represents rather large consumption by any earlier standards. The expectation of a drop from this year's high rate is based on the probability that meat will be a good deal more plentiful the coming year and that the substitution of eggs for meat will decline accordingly.

The policies to deal with this expected supply of eggs have not yet been determined. The Steagall Amendment commits the Government to supporting the price at 90 percent of parity. The discussion of ways of supporting the price largely centers on two contrasting methods.

One is to set a bottom price with the Government standing ready to take any that are offered at that price. If unofficial guesses are right, the Government might have to buy 25 million cases of eggs under that type of program. Just what it would do with the eggs remains to be determined.

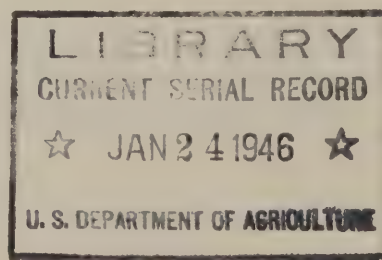
It would presumably keep the drying plants and egg processing plants and storage houses running to the limit and would try to find outlets for the egg products. Probably most of these outlets would have to be abroad and might return little of the initial cost of the eggs. They could, however, be of substantial value to hungry people somewhere in the world.

The other possible approach is in a broad way to try to encourage or enable the people in this country to eat a good many more than those 340 eggs apiece. Several different general ways of trying to accomplish this have been talked about.

The most frequently mentioned is some sort of stamp plan by which the Government would pay a part of the cost of the eggs to consumers.

Another idea is not to support the price of eggs in the market but let it seek its own level with the hope that consumers will buy a good many more eggs. Since, however, the Steagall Amendment calls for supporting the price to the producer, the plan would necessarily involve making him a payment of the difference between the general level of market prices of eggs and the support level.

It seems likely that it is in connection with eggs that we are to meet face to face one of our first issues of what Government policy is to be in regard to abundance. The plans arrived at could have broad significance in indicating the way we are likely to go with other and still bigger potential supplies.



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United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Division  
Washington 25, D. C.

Nov. 28, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region

AMERICAN FOOD CAN  
PROVE POWERFUL IN  
A LASTING PEACE

American food can be one of the most powerful forces in the world to bring lasting peace. Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson said in a recent broadcast.

With people of many lands wondering where and how they are going to get enough to eat, the United States is one of the few nations that has plenty of food for itself and some to spare for its allies.

He pointed out that the U. S. food supply in 1945 was divided like this: Civilians, 106 million tons (80 percent); armed forces, 12.8 million tons (9 percent); and exports, 15.9 million tons (over 11 percent).

Secretary Anderson explained that while the U.S. is making the largest single contribution toward supplementing food supplies of the United Nations, we are not doing the whole job. Other countries -- Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South American and Caribbean countries -- are supplying substantial amounts. Through UNRRA we are helping foot the bill for relief feeding, but the largest part of U.S. food sent abroad is going for cash to nations able to pay for it.

FARM MACHINERY OUTPUT  
EXPECTED TO INCREASE

Farm machinery is expected to show a moderate production increase during November. October production fell off some because of transition difficulties such as lack of manpower and materials, particularly steel sheets and castings. The largest declines were in production of repair parts and tractors.

NUMBER OF WORKERS  
ON FARMS INCREASES

On November 1, over 10 million people were working on farms. This was 60,000 more than a year ago, and the largest for that date since 1942. Hired farm workers were estimated at over 2 million -- 47,000 more than a year ago, and farm operators and family members, over 8 million. The increase in hired farm workers may be due to discharges from the armed forces and job lay-offs.



FIELD SERVICE BRANCH JOBS  
UNDER THE REORGANIZATION

The status of the Production and Marketing Administration and the programs and functions which are at present assigned to it, were outlined last week in "Agriculture in Action."

Continuing the subject, there follows an outline of the programs which are, at present, assigned to State offices of the Field Service Branch, and which are under the supervision of State Directors of the Field Service Branch.

- a. Agricultural Conservation, Adjustment, Crop Insurance, Sugar Payments, and Related Production Programs (these programs were formerly administered in the field by the Agricultural Adjustment Agency);
- b. School Lunch, Director Distribution, Merchandising Abundant Foods, Distributive Trades, Industrial Feeding, and Related Food Use and Preservation Programs.
- c. Such of the following programs as were formerly carried out in the field by the former AAA: Price Support, Loans, Subsidy, Purchase, Sale, and Marketing Programs as assigned. Programs in this group which were not formerly carried out in the field by the former AAA are to be carried out in the field by the field offices of the Commodity Branches.

FOREIGN FARM  
PROGRAM NEWS

A peacetime agricultural policy for British farmers, which in effect continues wartime controls, has been announced in the House of Commons. The policy provides

for:

1. Best use of agricultural resources;
2. Assured markets and stable prices for leading farm products;
3. Minimum and fixed prices adopted in advance of plantings or production of livestock products;
4. A national advisory service (with some regulatory powers);
5. Legal powers to dispossess farmers if other measures fail to eliminate poor practices or inadequate utilization of the land.

Under a reorganization of the Soviet Government agencies dealing with agriculture, the People's Commissariat of Industrial Crops in the Soviet Union has been created to control production of cotton, flax, hemp, silk, cork, tobacco, tea, citrus fruits, sugar beets, soybeans and other oilseed crops, and rubber bearing plants. Marketing and distribution of these products will continue to be administered by special commissariats.

\* \* \*

—"We intend to carry out the President's promise to ship the maximum amount of food to help relieve distress and prevent starvation in war devastated countries," -- Secretary Anderson in announcing the end of rationing of meats, fats and oils.

NEW HAMPSHIRE REPORTS  
BETTER COMMUNITY ELECTIONS

Most community elections in New Hampshire have been "outstandingly good meetings with attendance two or three times as great as last year" according to Earl P. Robinson, Executive Assistant, in a preliminary report at the time when about half of the elections had been held. He predicted total attendance would be about double that of 1944.

In addition to the elections, motion pictures were shown at the meetings, the 1946 program was discussed, and farmers were given an opportunity to enroll in the program for 1946.

TWO MORE NEW JERSEY  
COUNTIES NOW HAVE  
NEWSLETTER

Committeemen and farmers in Hunterdon and Ocean Counties, New Jersey, will now be up to date on what's new in ACP and other activities of the Field Service Branch. News items, brief and to the point, edited by County Assistants W. G. McIntyre and Mrs. Marie Sherman will be issued regularly.

Monmouth County continues its newsletter started quite some time ago.

SEPT. FOOD DELIVERIES  
TOTAL 632,754,096 LBS.

Deliveries of food and other agricultural products by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, for foreign shipment and for domestic and territorial supply programs, totalled 632,726,435 pounds during September. This was nearly double the quantities shipped during August, but about 10 million pounds smaller than July deliveries.

Foreign shipments alone during September were larger than total deliveries during August. Accounting for 58 percent of all September deliveries, foreign shipments totalled 363,014,936 pounds. This quantity was divided between the United Kingdom and British Services Overseas -- 174,493,553 pounds; the USSR -- 56,624,370 pounds; and other foreign countries (Metropolitan France, French West Africa, French Colony Supply Mission, French North Africa, the Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Norway, Sweden, British Colony Supply Mission, British dependencies and colonies, Iceland Purchasing Commission, and Arabia) -- 131,897,013 lbs.

On a commodity basis, grain products were the largest single item in foreign shipments, 167,215,240 pounds of grain products accounting for 46 percent of all such deliveries during September. Deliveries of 80,800,150 pounds of dairy and poultry products, amounting to 22 percent of September foreign shipments, were the next largest item. Other commodities included in foreign shipments were: meats (7 percent) -- 24,910,708 pounds; sugar (6 percent) -- 22,832,756 pounds; fruits and vegetables (6 percent) -- 20,929,089 pounds; cotton and fiber (5 percent) -- 18,196,529 pounds; fats and oils (4 percent) -- 14,478,917 pounds; special commodities (4 percent) -- 13,574,470 pounds; and tobacco (less than 1 percent) -- 49,440 pounds.

Deliveries to claimants of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (Czechoslovakia, Italy, Poland, Algeria, Egypt, Yugoslavia, Greece, Albania and the Philippines) totalled 135,530,591 pounds in September, or 29 percent of all USDA deliveries that month. Deliveries to UNRRA during August amounted to 90,896,192 pounds.



POST-WAR INTERBUREAU COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDS EXPANDED CONSERVATION  
PROGRAM--MORE LIMING AND FERTILIZATION

For more than three years working groups of the Department's Interbureau Committee on Post-War Programs, with the cooperation of nine regional post-war committees, have

been getting ready for the day when decisions would be made with respect to many post-war problems, according to the Committee's Report to the Secretary. They have tried to see their special fields in relation to the whole post-war economy. They have exchanged ideas with the post-war policy committee of the Land Grant College Association and other groups. Although the war ended before many of the studies were completed to their satisfaction, these working groups were asked by the Interbureau Committee to submit brief but explicit statements of their conclusions and recommendations. The following paragraphs summarize their report on Agricultural Conservation:

Soil and water conservation practices are needed for practically all crop and pasture lands. More than 43 million acres now under cultivation should be retired to grass or trees because they are either too steep, too eroded, too wet, too stony, or otherwise unsuited for efficient use in the production of cultivated crops.

Offsetting this needed conversion of present cultivated land to safe uses, if it should become necessary to increase the acreage of cultivated crops, it will be possible to enlarge the nation's crop area safely from land not now being used for cultivation. Looking into the future with perhaps several million more people in this country, the continuous, year after year, pressure on our land to feed, clothe and house them will be as great or greater than anything experienced to date. The proper use and treatment of the land must be a part of the total agricultural program.

Technical on-site assistance in planning, establishing, and maintaining soil and water conservation should be intensified and expanded. Aid should be given to land owners and operators in the form of materials, supplies, equipment, and labor, by inducement payments, through demonstration or pilot farms, and in other ways, where government encouragement of conservation, soil improvement, pest control, etc., is in the public interest.

In this connection, Federal aid programs for promoting use of fertilizers and liming materials should be substantially increased. Private industry, including farmer cooperatives, should be encouraged to expand production and improve distribution to meet all fertilizer demands. Government nitrogen plants needed for fertilizer production should be sold or leased to private industry, including farmer cooperatives, under arrangements that will insure use of the plants for the benefit of farmers in the public interest. The construction of needed new phosphate plants should be encouraged and exploration for new domestic sources of potash should be greatly intensified.

With the notable exception of much of the Northern and Central Plains, Western ranges generally are not in good productive condition despite the fact that the supply of range forage has been above normal over large areas of the West in recent years. Severe deterioration of the forage cover

(continued on page 5 )



(continued from page 4)

prevails over large areas, with the more desirable grasses drastically reduced. Years of effort with enlightened management and reseeding will be required to restore these ranges to full productivity, overcome losses of soil and soil fertility, check flood damage, reduce clogging of stream channels and reservoirs from flood damage, reduce clogging of stream channels and reservoirs from flood-borne sediments, and to contribute stability to the range livestock industry.

In carrying out the job of range conservation, farmers and ranchers will need help in the way of information, research, direct technical assistance in conservation planning, and financial aid to help meet the costs of certain practices. The Department of Agriculture, because of its large interest in the management of public range lands and its services to farmers and ranchers in the technical and economic phases of livestock production and range conservation, should assume the leadership in building a national range program.

The unsatisfactory pre-war situation in forestry conservation has been accentuated though not altered basically by the war. Eighty percent of the 462 million acres of commercial forest land has been cut over; some 77 million acres are virtually non-productive. Much of the remaining old growth is economically unavailable. Saw timber has declined almost 40 percent in volume in the last three decades. Annual growth, largely dependent on volume of growing stock, is substantially less than the annual drain. Private forests, supplying about 90 percent of the cut, are, for the most part, despite many notable exceptions, exploited without conscious regard for the future. Watershed and other important forest values have deteriorated seriously through misuse or neglect.

Moreover, timber requirements will probably continue at near war levels for several years. There are huge accumulated civilian requirements for housing and other uses and substantial quantities of timber may be needed for reconstruction in other countries. All this will continue the pressure for heavy cutting of our forests. And potential industrial developments, based on new-found uses for wood, may aggravate the situation unless coupled with definite action to assure adequate timber supplies. Because of the prospect of shortage there is need for building up and maintaining forest productivity at a much higher level than the present.

These facts emphasize the urgency of cooperative efforts of Federal, State, and private agencies, to follow through on a comprehensive program to extend the acreage of private forest land under planned care and management through public aids; to strengthen all major classes of forest research; to extend the acreage of forest land in public ownership; to institute a forest works program to restore and develop idle or only partly productive forest lands; and to bring about effective public regulation of cutting and other practices on private forest lands.

In its activities dealing with rural land resources, the Department needs to give increased emphasis to cooperative relationships with State and Federal agencies whose work has a significant bearing on the development of a balanced, integrated agricultural program.



POTATO LOAN REPORTS For the period ending November 17, 1945, 971 potato loans had been completed in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania covering 3,920,558.2 cwt. of U.S. No. 1 potatoes and 469,427.2 cwt. of U.S. No. 2's and No. 1's, size B. The only loans repaid were reported in Maine with 16 partly repaid and 14 repaid in full. This released 87,050 cwt. of U.S. No. 1's and 10,029.5 cwt. U.S. No. 2's and No. 1's, size B in the amount of \$125,031.33.

Individual State reports follow:

State	No. of Loans	Cwt. of US No. 1's Orig. Loaned	Cwt. of U.S. No. 1,B's & 2's Orig. Loaned	Prelim. Service Fees	Lending Agency Fees	Amount Orig. Loaned
Me.	899	3,810,069.5	453,513.1	\$59,014.54	\$26,310.88	\$5,234,481.37
N.H.	9	7,160.0	919.0	196.65	-	12,035.54
Mass.	4	20,691.0	1,742.0	-	-	33,460.39
R.I.	-	-	-	491.80	-	-
N.Y.	29	36,793.3	5,825.5	1,217.40	623.51	59,697.87
Pa.	30	45,844.4	7,427.6	479.50	280.05	71,711.70

POTATO LOAN APPLICATIONS Applications for potato loans in Aroostook County, Maine, have been received from 3,040 growers and TOTAL 23 MILLION BUSHELS dealers covering approximately 23 million bushels IN AROOSTOOK COUNTY, ME. as of November 15, the final date established by the State Committee for accepting applications. Completion of this many loans would cover about 40 percent of the entire crop in the State.

BELGIUM POTATO ORDER NEARLY FILLED Through November 24, Aroostook County, Maine, had shipped out 1085 cars for export to Belgium. It is expected that the total Belgium order for 1360 cars will be completely filled by the county about November 30.

THE DAIRY SITUATION The Department of Agriculture's Dairy Situation for November says in part: Prices received by farmers for whole milk sold at wholesale are likely to average somewhat lower in 1946 than in 1945, particularly in the flush-production season, if price ceilings on dairy products are continued at present levels. If ceilings are removed early in 1946, prices of whole milk probably will average at least as high in 1946 as in 1945. The key to this situation lies mainly in the price of butter. A further increase in or the removal of the ceiling on butter prices would be followed by diversion of some milk to butter production, now at the lowest level in over 20 years, and a strengthening of farm prices of both butterfat and whole milk.

(Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State AAA Committeemen; State Offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen; County Offices in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New Hampshire; County Committeemen in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.)



Radio Transcription

A. W. Manchester, Director

Northeast Region, Field Service Branch

Production and Marketing Adm., USDA

November 29, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.

Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

The outstanding issues before the Department of Agriculture now center around production goals and farm price and income policies.

How much farmers are going to be asked to produce in 1946 is now well toward final settlement. Committees of the Department have been meeting, sizing up needs and probable demand on the one side and production problems on the other, to arrive at tentative goals.

These will be sent to the States in early December with suggestions as to what part of the total each State might undertake. There, conferences will be held, and the States' recommendations as to State goals will be determined. It is hoped to have all the State suggestions back in Washington by the first of January. After these have been assembled and gone over carefully, the final goals will be announced.

It's much harder, in some ways, to set goals this year than it was during the war. Then, as a rule, it was pretty easy to estimate how much was needed. About the only question was how close to the needs we could hope to produce.

Now, there isn't much more question than there was then of how much is needed -- if we include the world-wide human needs for food. It is still more than we can hope to produce.

But hungry mouths don't make a market. There isn't much use in producing in the United States to feed the starving peoples of Europe and the East, and then have the food rot in the fields or on the sidings. That could spell grave disaster for farmers and collapse of the farm market for industry. Or, farm income could be sustained at heavy cost to the Federal Treasury.

As yet, our National policy for the export of American food to hungry foreigners is not clear-cut.

The foreigners can't buy much food and pay American prices for it. That is plain fact. The war has left them flat broke to an extent that we seem to have hard work realizing. We put lots into the war, but they put incomparably more. War destroyed their railroads, their factories, and their mines. It will take a good while at the best for them to recreate their ability to make buying power.

They could buy of us only if we were to sell very cheaply -- at a fraction of prices here. That would require large appropriations if American farm prices are to remain at fair levels.



Some have counted on large exports by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration -- called UNRRA for short. But the money has not yet been appropriated to UNRRA. It has even had to cancel its orders for 50 million dollars worth of medical supplies with which to care for the sick.

Setting the farm goals can't wait. Farmers can't delay making their farm plans and preparations. Seeds and supplies have to be ordered. The industries making those supplies are already making their commitments. But the uncertainties as to foreign outlets for American food make the setting of goals unusually hazardous.

Frankly, the fundamental questions is: Is this country going to take on its full share of the responsibility of making this a good world to live in -- a generous, neighborly world, a world in which peace and right can thrive? Or are we going to drift back to a "penny wise, pound foolish" policy, where we cling to our shrinking, withering plenty, in a world of privation, greed and grasp?

If we follow the latter course, the costs of preparation for the next war will be far greater than would be the costs of generosity and human kindness. It doesn't even make sense on a dollar basis. Most of us in this country are bewildered. We have trouble in finding a clear path ahead in the general fog that has settled down on us.

It's in that atmosphere that the farm goals have to be set this year.

If they are set high, it means that we are guessing that the country will find a way to have our ability to produce a lot of food utilized for the good of mankind -- here and abroad.

